

About Plays
and Players

By BIDE DUDLEY

BROADWAY hears that Ina Claire, who has recently come under David Belasco's managerial wing, will be first at the Belasco Theatre next season. Mr. Belasco has provided her with a delightful comedy called "Polly's Past." It was tried out about three weeks ago in Atlantic City and did very well. In it Miss Claire does no singing. You may wonder how the fair Ina can get along without bursting forth in an Irving Berlin aria, but David Belasco will bet you a barrel of pickles you like her in "Polly's Past."

ROCHE EARNS MEMBERSHIP. Arthur Somers Roche, novelist, whose first play is to be produced soon by A. H. Woods, was dining on the Majestic Roof with the American Press Humorists the other night. At the next table were Peggy Hyland, Alice Brady and Ruth Roland, moving picture stars. O. O. McIntyre recognized the young women, and, gazing heavenward, said: "There are some beautiful stars out to-night." Mr. Roche, unaware of the fact that greatness was at his elbow, rubbed his horn-rimmed glasses and said: "I'll have to visit my optician. I can't see a single star."

HER ACCOMPLISHMENTS. (Continued by Dick Wells.) "Oh, how I hate to swim!" cried the pretty Picture Pet. "I'm never really happy till from head to toe I'm wet." She donned her dainty costume and she took her parasol to give the boys a treat and dipped her ankles, that was all. "I'm quite a noted rider and I love my horse and crop," said she, "and when I'm riding, well, I never want to stop." She wore her riding habit, took some close-ups by a horse, but was doubled in the riding by an extra girl, of course. "I'm very fond of flying, too," said she. "I'll get a plane. All flights below two thousand feet to me are quite insane." Her suit was just the cutest thing they ever filmed, and yet her double had one like it, and she made the flight, you bet. The Picture Pet had frocks to wear for sports of every grade, but never swam, rode or flew because she was afraid. Her double did the reckless stunts, but praise and posters blared the Picture Pet's renown broadcast as "She Who Did and Dared."

OUR OWN POPULAR SONGS. A waiter in a restaurant was feeling very blue. His thoughts were of a little maid; he called her "Susan Brown." He'd asked the girl to be his wife and she had answered "No." He didn't know the waiter was very, very blue. He poured the soup on seven heads; eight drinks did he pour. His poverty had made the man an absent-minded case. He dropped a tear into the wine each time he poured a glass. When wait was over for the day, those words he had said came back to him.

GOSSIP. Joseph Urban is redecorating the Liberty Theatre. The freaks at Luna will be given a chance to laugh at the American Press Humorists to-night. Joseph Kantrowitz has gone to Lake Carey to write playlets. He took a deck of cards along. Edith Helena is to become a comedian in vaudeville. She says the high notes are positively out. Johnny Dooley and his wife, Yvette Ruggel, of the Winter Garden, have been given a touring car by the Deoleys. Some family! Justine Johnston's little revue, to be produced atop the Forty-fourth Street Theatre in September, will be called "Oh, Justine!"

Rose Shustinger, whose telephone is Schuyler 3672, has heard Steve O'Grady is in town and wants him to call her up. She means it, too. Jack Hazard will be in "Miss Springtime" again next season. They say he's just as funny as ever, though married. "Love o' Mike" will close at Maxine Elliott's Theatre Saturday. Lee Shubert and Elizabeth Marbury received a petition requesting the firing from the cast and, while they are not Theatians, they acted on it.

A THOUGHT FOR TO-DAY. A Boonville (Mo.) small boy was whipped because he asked his father if a drunken oyster would be an oyster stew.

FOOLISHMENT. She hugged the man with all her might. He looked so sad and she had a fright. "Your heart is broken, dear," she cried. "Three fine cigars, you mean," he sighed.

FROM THE CHEERFUL TREE. "You had no business to kiss me." "Oh, it wasn't business. It was pleasure."

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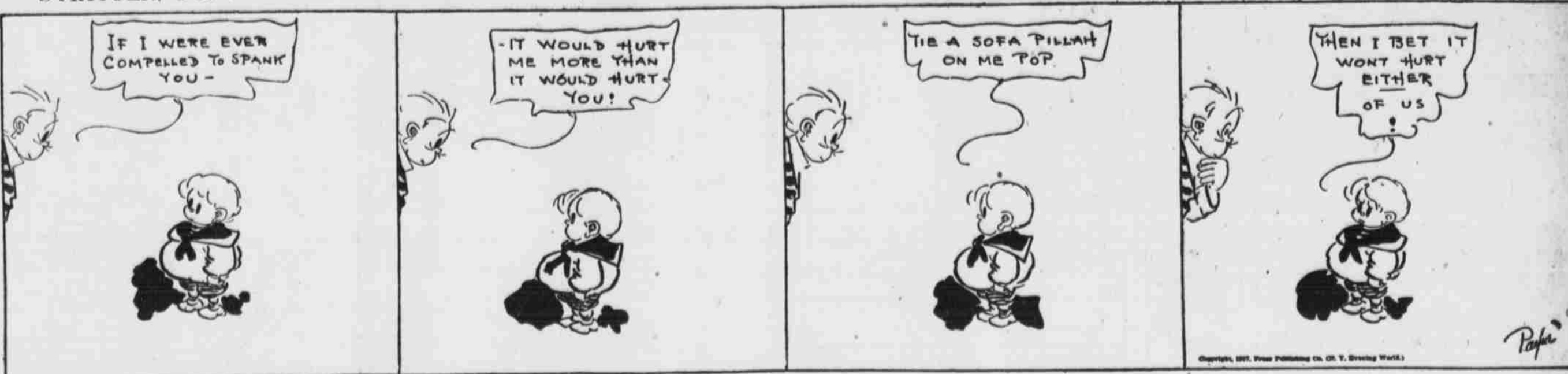
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"S'MATTER, POP?"

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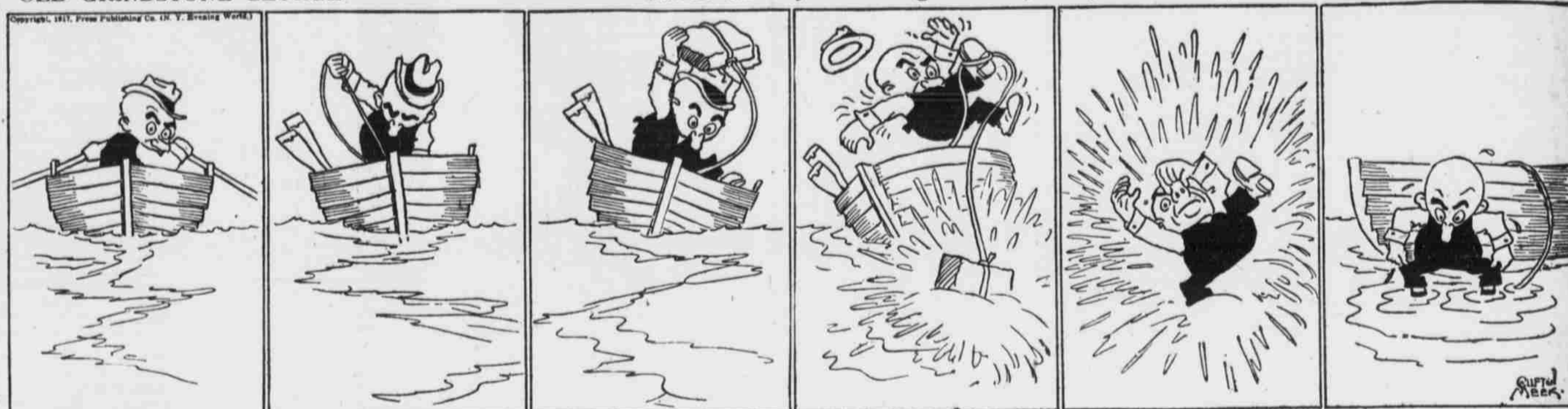
By C. M. Payne



OLD GRINDSTONE GEORGE

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